

**REPORT TO:** Children, Young People and Families Policy and Performance Board

**DATE:** 29 January 2018

**REPORTING OFFICER:** Strategic Director, People

**SUBJECT:** Neglect Strategy 2017-2019

**WARDS:** Boroughwide

## **1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

1.1 To present to members Halton's Neglect Strategy 2017-2019

## **2.0 RECOMMENDATION**

**That the Board**

**i. Receives and endorses the strategy.**

## **3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

3.1 Halton's Neglect Strategy has been developed under Halton Safeguarding Children Board (HSCB). It is a multi-agency document which outlines the definitions and responses to neglect and the background and prevalence to neglect in Halton.

3.2 The strategy is accompanied by a multi-agency action plan which details how agencies and partners should identify and respond to neglect and how HSCB will scrutinise and monitor the impact and effectiveness of the strategy,

## **4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 The strategy is essential in determining how all partners identify and response to neglect. Ofsted are reporting on neglect following a number of Joint Targeted Area Inspections (most recently Cheshire West and Chester in November 17) and will be re-visiting this area as part of its new Inspection of Local Authority Services inspection from January 2018. It will also be returning to neglect as a theme in 2018 to determine if lessons have been learning and practice and outcomes have improved as a result of its reports. Halton may receive either inspection during 2018.

## **5.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCILS PRIORITIES**

### **5.1 Children & Young People in Halton**

Children and Young People who have experienced neglect can have a number of poorer outcomes as a result without early identification, support and safeguarding.

### **5.2 A Healthy Halton**

Children who have experienced neglect can experience poorer outcomes with their education and future aspirations.

### **5.3 Employment, Learning & Skills in Halton**

Children who have experienced neglect may be young carers for adults in their family who have difficulties and who are not able to provide safe and secure care for their children. This increases the risk of harm to children in their local communities as they are vulnerable to others in terms of exploitation and abuse.

### **5.4 A Safer Halton**

None.

### **5.5 Halton's Urban Renewal**

None.

## **6.0 RISK ANALYSIS**

Failure to address the reasons and causes of neglect exposes children to poorer outcomes in their health, education, emotional health and wellbeing and to their safety and security.

## **7.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES**

Services must be responsive to their needs of individual children and their families in providing services to them.

## **8.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/joint-inspections-of-the-response-to-children-experiencing-neglect-may-to-december-2017>